

REMARKS

In response to the above noted Final Office Action, Applicants amend the application as follows:

With respect to the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, applicant amends Claim 14 to provide antecedent basis for the "said first spreader member" and "said second spreader member." It is the understanding of the applicant that Claim 14 as previously written fails to distinguish definitely the relationship between the "first and second spreader members" and "said pair of spreaders" with respect to the claim itself as well as the disclosure of the specification. The latter has been removed. Furthermore, Claim 14 has been rewritten to clearly limit and provide antecedent basis for "said first spreader member" and "said second spreader member."

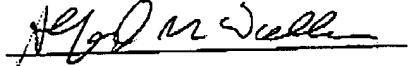
Claim 16 has been added in effort to clarify and distinguish further limitations previously written in Claim 14. The applicant indicates that Claim 16 has been added in the spirit of further clarifying and definitively limiting the current invention and in response to the 112 rejection of Claim 14. No new matter is presented nor is it the opinion of the applicant that any new grounds of rejection may arise. Specifically, Claim 14 presents a further limitation applicable to both "said first spreader member" and "said second spreader member," as previously indefinite as written in Claim 14.

Claim 17 also written in the spirit of overcoming indefiniteness issues of previous Claim 14 presents a further limitation of "said first spreader member." Once again, no new matter has been added nor is it the opinion of the applicant that any new grounds of rejection may arise.

Applicant submits that the amendments to the claims, above, are fully responsive to the grounds of rejection as set forth by the examiner. The applicant further holds that the above noted application is now allowable, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 24, 2003



Alfred M. Walker
Reg. No. 29,983
Attorney for Applicant
225 Old Country Road
Melville, NY 11747-2712
631-361-8737

12-24-03 pat116 amendment

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence is being deposited by facsimile to The Commissioner for Patents at (703)872-9302 on the date indicated below.

Date: December 24, 2003



Alfred Walker